

### **REMARKS**

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated June 15, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-9 and 11-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,739,880 to Suzuki et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,358,810 to Yoshino and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,481,388 to Aoya.

The rejection of claims 1-9 and 11-20 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a seal pattern on the over-coat layer, the seal pattern including a support member and entirely overlapping the black matrix.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least the aforementioned feature of the claimed invention.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that Suzuki et al. teaches “a seal pattern (SL) on the overcoat layer, also on the common electrode (COM), and partially overlap the black matrix (BM) as shown in Fig. 5a.” However, the seal pattern of the claimed invention is entirely overlapping the black matrix and not partially overlapping with the black matrix. Thus, Suzuki et al. fails to teach or suggest at least “the seal pattern including a support member and entirely overlapping the black matrix.”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 2-9, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 11 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a seal pattern on the common electrode, the seal pattern including a support member and entirely overlapping the black matrix.” None of the cited

references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least the aforementioned feature of the claimed invention.

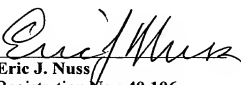
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 11 for the same reasons as claim 1. Applicants' arguments with respect to claim 11 are equally applicable to claims 1, and Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and claims 12-20, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496.7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Respectfully submitted,

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